

**MINUTES OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCES APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
February 5, 2009
Room 415, State Capitol Building, State Capitol Complex**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. Dennis Stowell, Co-Chair
 Rep. Kerry W. Gibson, Co-Chair
 Sen. Brent Goodfellow
 Sen. David Hinkins
 Rep. Roger Barrus
 Rep. Jack Draxler
 Rep. James R. Gowans
 Rep. John G. Mathis
 Rep. Michael E. Noel
 Rep. Christine Watkins

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rep. Brad Winn

STAFF: Ivan Djambov, Fiscal Analyst
 Linda Service, Committee Secretary

Note: A list of visitors and a copy of handouts are filed with the committee minutes.

Sen. Stowell called the meeting to order at 2:21 p.m.

Division of Wildlife Resources: Analyst's Presentation

Ivan Djambov, Fiscal Analyst, presented the Compendium of Budget Information for the 2009 General Session Line Item: Wildlife Resources and the Issue Brief, Wildlife Resources, Fees. He responded to questions from committee members.

Division of Wildlife Resources: Agency Presentation

Jim Karpowitz, Director, Division of Wildlife Resources, along with Greg Sheehan, Chief of Administrative Services, presented a video showcasing accomplishments of employees and a clip from NBC Nightly News speaking to the value of wildlife. Director Karpowitz discussed a handout detailing economic issues, organizational structure, major accomplishments, goals and objectives, major issues and challenges, and funding. He responded to concerns of the Committee regarding Sage-Grouse and requested the remainder of the one-time appropriation money left in the program be made non-lapsing. He discussed the aggressive efforts made by the Division to keep invasive mussels from spreading into the state and requested the funding for that program be kept in tact. Director Karpowitz summarized Proposed Fee Changes in FY 2010. He responded to questions from the Committee.

Don Peay, Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, commented on the success the Committee has had working with private partnerships and private land to improve wildlife resources.

Clark Willis, wool grower, complimented the Division for the work done on endangered species.

Division of Water Rights: Analyst's Presentation

The Analyst presented the Compendium of Budget Information for the 2009 General Session, Line Item: Water Rights and Issue Brief: Water Rights, Fees. He requested the Division address the intent language in the Compendium touching on how they have done based on the direction given them. He mentioned the proposed plan for changing fees.

Division of Water Rights: Agency Presentation

Boyd Clayton, Deputy State Engineer, along with Kent Jones, State Engineer, provided a handout detailing the following: mission, services, customers, accomplishments, issues and challenges, plan of action, and funding issues. Due to volatility in sales tax revenue, non-lapsing authority is crucial to the Division. Water Rights is statutorily mandated to provide nine services. They are currently providing a tenth - public assistance and education. The Division connects water and the people who want to beneficially use it. Their mission is to provide order and certainty in the beneficial use of Utah's water. Mr. Clayton discussed Stream Alteration Permit Fees Methodologies. He responded to suggestions from committee members.

MOTION: Sen. Stowell moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:50 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Sen. Dennis Stowell, Co-Chair

Rep. Kerry W. Gibson, Co-Chair

Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee
February 5, 2009
Page 3